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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: David B. Smith : Art Unit: 3662
Serial No.: 08/976,440 : Examiner: Nelson Moskowitz
Filed: November 25, 1997 :
FOR: TRANSMISSION OF DATA :
IN BOREHOLES

RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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S I R :

In response to the Office Action dated September 17, 2001, the following remarks are submitted:

REMARKS

The Examiner has maintained his objection that claims 1-6 and 8-13 are obvious in the light of Montgomery or Bockhorst when taken with Grossman and Close et al or Arriens.

Montgomery and Bockhorst disclose systems for acoustic data transmission through drill strings. The applicant has argued that such systems had never been successfully operated in practice at the time that the present